



## Los Angeles County Regional Park And Open Space District

Administrative Offices: 510 S. Vermont Avenue Los Angeles, CA 90020-1975. (213) 738-2981. <http://openspacedistrict.lacounty.info>

January 19, 2016

The Honorable Board of Directors  
County of Los Angeles  
Regional Park and Open Space District  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Directors:

# ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

5-P January 19, 2016

  
PATRICK OGAWA  
ACTING EXECUTIVE OFFICER

**ALLOCATE SPECIFIED EXCESS FUNDS  
AVAILABLE TO THE FIFTH SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT  
AND AUTHORIZE AWARD AND ADMINISTRATION OF A GRANT TO  
THE CITY OF SIERRA MADRE FOR THE CIVIC CENTER LANDSCAPING PROJECT  
(SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 5) (3 VOTES)**

### **SUBJECT**

Approval of the recommended actions will allocate Specified Excess Funds, available to the Fifth Supervisorial District, in an amount not to exceed \$25,000, to the City of Sierra Madre for the development of a drought-resistant garden.

### **IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:**

1. Find the proposed Sierra Madre Civic Center Landscaping Project categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act for the reasons stated in this letter and in the record of the project.
2. Allocate Specified Excess Funds, available to the Fifth Supervisorial District and in an amount not to exceed \$25,000, to the City of Sierra Madre for the Civic Center Landscaping Project.
3. Authorize the Acting Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation, in his capacity as Acting Director of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District, to award a grant in a total not to exceed \$25,000, to the City of Sierra Madre when applicable conditions have been met, and to administer the grant as of the date of award and pursuant to guidelines in the Procedural Guide for Specified, Per Parcel, and Excess Funds Projects; otherwise, funds shall remain in the Excess Funds account.

## **PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Approval of the recommended actions will allocate Specified Excess Funds, available to the Fifth Supervisorial District pursuant to the Los Angeles County Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996 (1996 Proposition), in an amount not to exceed \$25,000, to the City of Sierra Madre (City) for the Civic Center Landscaping Project (Project).

The proposed Project involves the design and construction of a water-efficient garden with drought-tolerant native plants on the premises of the City's Civic Center. The total estimated project cost is \$57,750. The recommended Specified Excess Funds will be supplemented with \$18,000 from the San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District and \$14,750 from the Sierra Madre Community Foundation.

It is also recommended that the Acting Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation (Acting Director), in his capacity as Acting Director of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District, be authorized to award a grant to the City when applicable conditions have been met. Applicable conditions include grantee qualifications, consistency between the project and requirements of the 1996 Propositions, as well as grantee agreement with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements for the project. It is further recommended that the Acting Director be authorized to administer the grant under the Procedure Guide previously approved by the Board.

## **Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals**

The proposed recommendations further the Board-approved County Strategic Plan Goals of Operational Effectiveness/Fiscal Sustainability (Goal 1) and Community Support and Responsiveness (Goal 2) by providing grant funds to enhance healthy activities in the Fifth Supervisorial District.

## **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

Sufficient appropriation for the grant, in an amount not to exceed \$25,000, is budgeted in the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District's (RPOSD) Excess Project Funds, HD6.

## **FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

The 1996 Proposition requires that agencies to which funds were allocated under the Safe Neighborhood Parks Propositions of 1992 and 1996 encumber all such funds prior to receiving grants of Excess Funds. The City meets this requirement.

The 1996 Proposition provides a method for determining each fiscal year the amount of funds available in the following fiscal year to fund capital improvement projects in addition to the amounts specifically identified for projects in the Safe Neighborhood Parks Propositions of 1992 and 1996. The recommended grant will be funded from the Excess Funds available to the Fifth Supervisorial District for Specified Projects.

The Board may establish additional conditions on grants of Excess Funds. The Acting Director will be authorized to award grants when all applicable conditions have been met. Any funds allocated by the Board, but not encumbered by award of a grant contract in the same fiscal year, shall be available for allocation by the Board in the following fiscal year.

On June 2, 2009, the Board approved the Procedural Guide to govern the administration of RPOSD grants. The Procedural Guide will appropriately govern the administration of the recommended grant as well.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION**

All projects funded by RPOSD are required to comply with CEQA as a condition of the grant. The lead agency is responsible for preparing the appropriate environmental documentation for the project. The City is the lead agency for the proposed Project.

The proposed Project is categorically exempt from CEQA. The Project, which consists of design and construction of a water-efficient garden with drought-tolerant native plants, is within certain classes of projects that have been determined not to have a significant effect on the environment in that it meets the criteria set forth in Sections 15303 (d) (e) and 15304 (b) of the State CEQA Guidelines, and Classes 3 (a) (b) and 4 (c) of the County's Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, Appendix G, because the Project involves new construction of water main, sewage, electrical, gas, and other utility extension; construction of accessory structures; and new landscaping.

The proposed Project will not involve the removal of healthy, mature, and scenic trees. Additionally, the proposed Project is not in a sensitive environment, and there are no cumulative impacts, unusual circumstances, or other limiting factors that would make the exemption inapplicable based on the proposed Project's records.

### **CONTRACTING PROCESS**

A Project Agreement will be entered into and administered under authority delegated to the Acting Director and pursuant to the Procedural Guide approved by the Board in 2009 only if all applicable conditions of the grant have been met. The Project Agreement will be approved as to form by County Counsel.

### **IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

The recommended actions will have no impact on any other projects funded by RPOSD. The recommended Project will promote healthy activities in public spaces in the Fifth Supervisorial District.

### **CONCLUSION**

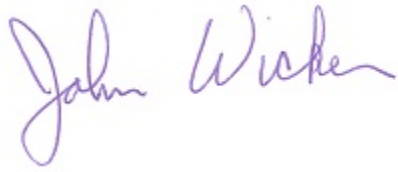
Please instruct the Acting Executive Officer - Clerk of the Board to return one adopted copy of this action to the Chief Executive Office, Capital Programs Division, and one to the Department of Parks and Recreation.

The Honorable Board of Directors

1/19/2016

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Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "John Wicker". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

JOHN WICKER

Acting Director

JW:JB:WRO:tb

c: Chief Executive Officer  
County Counsel  
Acting Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors